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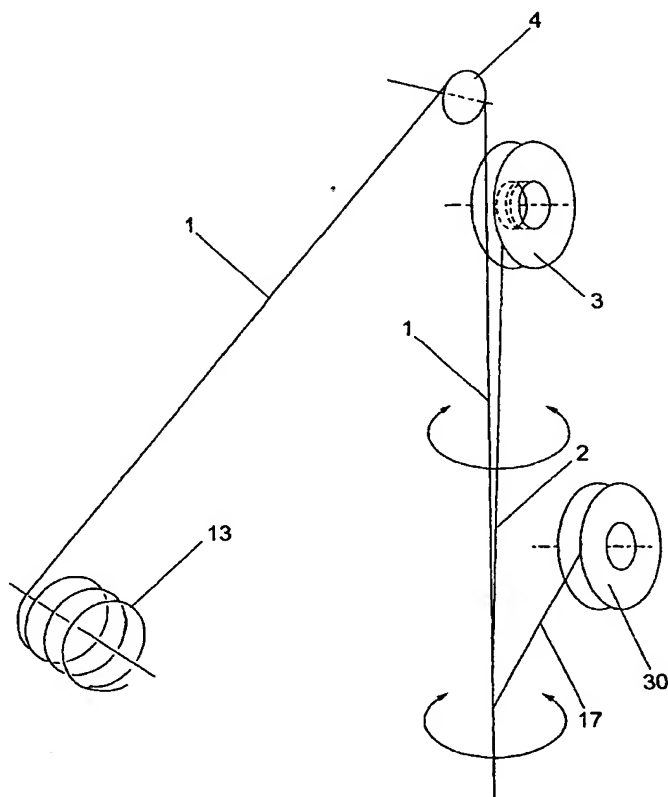
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND A METHOD FOR USE IN HANDLING A LOAD



(57) Abstract: Apparatus for use in handling a load where a load-bearing rope (1) and a service cable (2) are inter-wound as they are being paid out, having a wrapping device for wrapping a securing member (17) around the service cable and the load-bearing rope, and to unwrap the securing member from the service cable and load-bearing rope as either of them is recovered. The securing member is wound around the service cable and the hoist rope, to hold the service cable relative to the load-bearing rope and to reduce the extent of creeping of the service cable down the load-bearing rope. The securing member can be planar, in the form of a strip, tape or ribbon, or can have a circular cross-section, in the form of a rope. In preferred embodiments, the securing member is resilient and is applied to the rope in tension.

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